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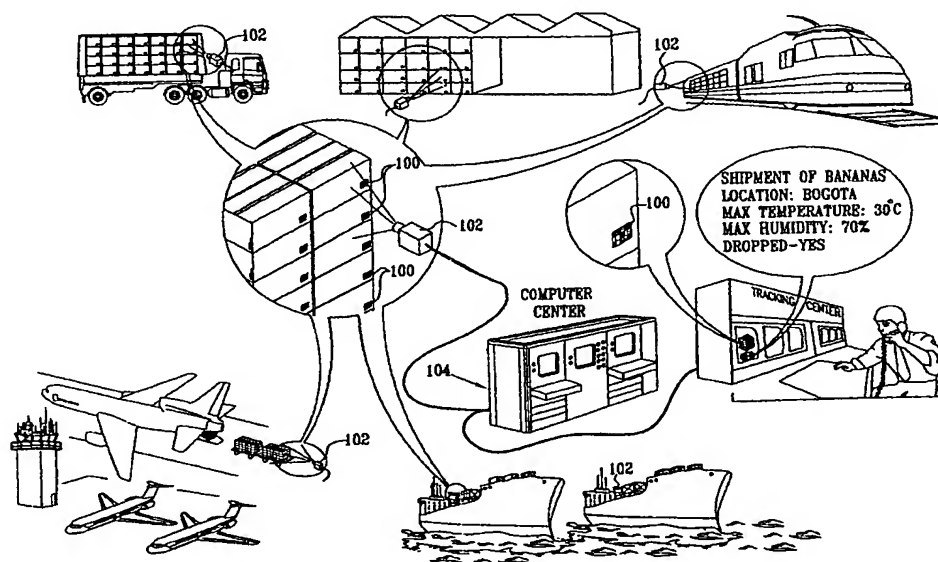
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- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): IM-AGEID LTD. [IL/IL]; Amal Street 11, 48092 Rosh Ha'ayin (IL).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): SHNIBERG, Moti [IL/IL]; P.O. Box 603, 44814 Elkannah (IL). NEMET, Yaron [IL/IL]; P.O. Box 183, 44856 Kedumim (IL). SALI, Erez [IL/IL]; Hadagan Street 11, Savion 56505 (IL).
- (74) Agents: SANFORD T. COLB & CO. et al.; P.O. Box 2273, 76122 Rehovot (IL).
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- with international search report
  - before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHODOLOGY FOR TRACKING OBJECTS USING VISUALLY SENSIBLE INDICATORS



(57) Abstract: A system for tracking objects (10, 30, 502) including visually sensible indicators (12, 32, 74, 100, 238, 300, 400, 504, 600) on objects being tracked, at least one imager (14, 34, 102, 200, 210, 220, 222, 230, 234, 500) capturing images of the objects being tracked which images also show the visually sensible indicators and at least one image processor (16, 36, 104, 202, 212, 224, 236, 506) receiving outputs of the at least one imager and extracting from the outputs coded information indicated by the visually sensible indicators, the coded information being viewable on a display (18, 38), either locally or at a remote location (20, 40, 204, 214, 226, 240).

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*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL03/00045

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : H04N 5/225  
US CL : 348/169; 235/385,469,494; 340/5.92

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
U.S. : Please See Continuation Sheet

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
EAST (imager, camera, barcode, tag, label, identifier, inventory, tracking)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X — Y	US 5,698,833 A (SKINGER) 16 December 1997, Figs. 1-3B; Abstract; col. 8, line 12 to col. 10, line 17.	1,3-5,14,16,20,21,23-25,33,34,36,40,41,44,47-51,57,59 ----- 2,12,22,32,58
Y	US 6,142,375 A (BELKA et al) 07 November 2000, Figs. 1-2; Abstract; col. 3, lines 57-68	12,32
Y	US 6,286,763 B1 (REYNOLDS et al) 11 September 2001, Figs. 1-3 and 6-7; col. 5, lines 28-46; col. 7, line 41 to col. 8, line 8; col. 8, line 61 to col. 9, line 17.	2,22,58
A,P	US 6,342,830 B1 (WANT et al) 29 January 2002, Fig. 1 and the Abstract.	67-86

☐

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 May 2003 (18.05.2003)

Date of mailing of the international search report

05 NOV 2003

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Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
Facsimile No. (703)305-3230

Authorized officer

Thomas J. Mullen, Jr.

Telephone No. 703-305-3900

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL03/00045

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claim Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claim Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☒ Claim Nos.: 52-56,60-66,72-76,80-86  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

☐  
☐

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

PCT/IL03/00045

**Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 1:**

348/169,195,161,96,86,91,94; 235/385,469,494,487,454,462.01,462.03,462.04,462.11,462.41;  
340/5.92,572.1,572.4,521,522,691.6,573.1; 705/22,28; 250/555,559.07,559.08; 382/181,224,100,141